

Infectious disease cases in Hong Kong West Cluster

The following is issued on behalf of the Hospital Authority:

The spokesperson for Hong Kong West Cluster made the following announcement today (May 3):

Four patients (aged 77 to 92) in a male Medical Ward of Grantham Hospital have been confirmed as carriers of Carbapenemase-Producing Enterobacteriaceae (CPE) without clinical symptoms since April 27. The patients are currently under medical surveillance and isolation. Three patients are in serious condition owing to underlying illness, while another is in stable condition.

Furthermore, three male patients (aged 33 to 71) with chronic illnesses in an infirmary ward of Tung Wah Hospital (TWH) and one healthcare worker have presented with fever and upper respiratory symptoms since April 19. Laboratory tests for the three patients were positive for human metapneumovirus. The patients are being treated under isolation. One patient is in serious condition owing to underlying illness, while the others are in a stable condition. The healthcare worker has recovered and resumed duty.

The Hospital Infection Control Team of the hospitals have followed up with the departments concerned and experts of the Centre for Health Protection. Infection control measures in the ward have already been stepped up according to prevailing guidelines including the enhancement of cleaning and disinfection. The wards have applied stringent contact precautions and enhanced hand hygiene of staff and patients. All other patients of the aforementioned wards are under close medical surveillance. Admission to the wards concerned has been suspended. Home leave has been suspended and restricted visiting has been imposed for the infirmary ward of TWH.

The cases have been reported to the Hospital Authority Head Office and the Centre for Health Protection for necessary follow-up.